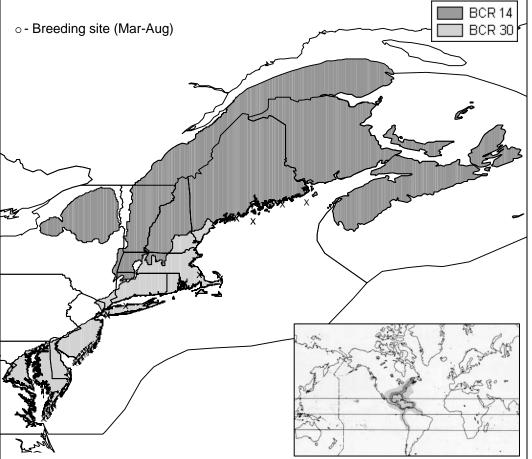
LAUGHING GULL (Larus atricilla megalopterus)

Conservation Status: Abundance (b=breeding, nb=nonbreeding, t=total individuals), Population Importance (% reference population) and Conservation Rank							
Global	North America	BCR 14	BCR 30	Mid-Atlantic	S. New England	Gulf of Maine	Maritimes
807,000 -	528,000 - 538,000b	2,704b	202,646b	189,122b	13,524b	2,702b	2b
837,000t	(>80% global)	(<1% NA)	(38% NA)	(92% MANEM)	(7% MANEM)	(1% MANEM)	(0% MANEM)
IUCN-	NAWCP-	Not at risk	Not at risk	NJ- S5B; DE- S4B; MD-	NY-S1; CT-SZN; RI- SZN;	MA-S2, NH-SZN;	QC-SN; NB-
Not Evaluated	Not currently at risk			S1B, S4N; VA-S3S4	MA-S2; VT-na	ME-S2S3B; NB-	S1B; PE- no
				MANEM Focal Species	MANEM Focal Species	S1B; NS- S2N	info; NS- S2N



Regional Occurrence [BCRs 14 (LME 8), 30 (LME 7)]

- Distribution: breeds in region
- Habitats used: salt marsh islands, sandy islands with scattered patches of long grass (breeding); seacoasts, bays, estuaries (non-breeding); foraging: non-breeding summer birds 30-60 km inland from coastal breeding sites; breeders may fly 40 km for food; coast at edge of water; inland during high tides and high winds and to find insects in meadows and plowed fields; also feeds on inland lakes, marshes, coastal marshes, impoundments and pools

NAWCP BD=3; NAWCP ND=2

Regional Abundance

- 1990s: US—205,348b (275 colonies); CAN—2b
- 1970s: US—129,768b (63 colonies)
- 58% increase in regional population

NAWCP PS=2; NAWCP PT=2

Regional Threats/Limiting Factors

- Habitat degradation and loss due to coastal development
- Human intrusion and predation at nesting colonies (will abandon site early in season)
- Pesticide contamination (esp. DDE and organochlorines)
- Competes with other species of conservation concern (i.e. HERG) at nesting areas
- Collisions at several airports has led to direct killing as control technique
- Rack deposits, sea water rise, storm tides

NAWCP TB=2: NAWCP TN=2

Conservation Needs: Sustainability: 1.4 fledglings/nest; Conservation Actions: No established management plans currently implemented; some states conduct periodic monitoring of population status; Needs: monitor, manage conflicts with tern species and RedKnots, manage local sites; Population Goals: maintain (below maximum) at 168,500-205,900b; Habitat Goals: TBD